

House Bill 1594, which was passed by the General Assembly and allowed to go into effect without my signature, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 960.

Very truly yours,  
Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.  
Governor

### **Senate Bill No. 960**

AN ACT concerning

### **Benefits and Services for Individuals Who Are Incarcerated or Institutionalized - Work Group Report**

FOR the purpose of extending the date by which a certain work group convened by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Department of Human Resources, and the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services is required to issue a certain report including certain findings and recommendations; and generally relating to a work group report concerning benefits for individuals who are incarcerated or institutionalized.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Chapter 82 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2005  
Section 3

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

### **Chapter 82 of the Acts of 2005**

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Department of Human Resources, and the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services shall convene a work group consisting of interested stakeholders to make recommendations on actions to be taken to break the cycle of rearrest and reincarceration for individuals with mental illnesses who become involved with the criminal justice system, including the following:

(1) recommended agency responsibility for and actions to be taken to ensure that suspension and reinstatement of benefits occur in a seamless fashion;

(2) review and clarification of current and recommended agency responsibility for case management services for individuals released from incarceration;

(3) measures to ensure that timely assistance is provided to inmates with psychiatric disabilities who are not on eligibility rolls for federal benefits but who are likely to be eligible for those benefits on release;